

SPring-8 Research Frontiers describes the remarkable scientific achievements made at SPring-8 as well as developments in the accelerator and beamlines. This first volume covers a period of about one year since the opening of synchrotron radiation research facilities to public users. Hereafter, **SPring-8 Research Frontiers** will be published annually.

We tentatively classified synchrotron radiation research into five fields and invited five specialists from the Proposal Review Committee to be Editing Coordinators of their respective research fields as listed below:

- Life Science* : Professor Isao Tanaka (Hokkaido University)
- Diffraction and Scattering* : Professor Makoto Sakata (Nagoya University)
- XAFS* : Professor Yasuo Udagawa (Tohoku University)
- Spectroscopy* : Professor Atsushi Fujimori (The University of Tokyo)
- Instrumentation and Techniques* : Dr. Yoshio Suzuki (SPring-8/JASRI)

Since **SPring-8 Research Frontiers** is not a scientific journal, the authors are limited in number and will serve as contact persons.

We express our sincere thanks to these Editing Coordinators for their efforts in preparing the introductory overviews and making comments on each research field. We also express our thanks to the users and facility staff members of SPring-8 for their cooperation during the editing process. We acknowledge Dr. Katsutoshi Yasufuku for his comments and Ms. Marcia M. Obuti-Daté for her help in editing this volume.

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